**In the claims:**

Please amend the claims as shown:

1. (currently amended): A method for ~~transferring~~ the local delivery of a nucleic acid ~~into~~ to the nerve cells of a mammal, comprising a step of contacting the nerve cells with (a) a negative-sense RNA viral vector or (b) cells comprising said vector, wherein said negative-sense RNA virus belongs to the Paramyxoviridae family.

2. (original): A method of claim 1, wherein said nerve cells are central nervous system cells.

3. (original): A method of claim 2, wherein said central nervous system cells are ventricular ependymal cells.

4. (original): A method of claim 2, wherein said central nervous system cells are hippocampus cells.

5. (currently amended): ~~The~~ A method of claim 1, wherein nucleic acid contained in the negative-sense RNA viral vector comprises a foreign gene.

6. (original): A method of claim 5, further comprising transient expression of ~~allowing to transiently express~~ said foreign gene.

7. (cancelled)

8. (currently amended): A method of claim ~~7~~5, wherein said gene encodes a protein that acts on the hypothalamic nuclei.

9. (currently amended): A method of claim ~~7~~5, wherein said gene encodes a protein ~~is~~ capable of protecting the brain from ischemia.

10. (original): A method of claim 9, wherein said protein is neurotrophic factor.

11. (original): A method of claim 5, wherein said foreign gene is selected from the group consisting of FGF-1, FGF-2, FGF-5, NGF, CNTF, BDNF, GDNF, p35, CrmA, ILP, bc1-2 and ORF 150.

12. (withdrawn)

13. (withdrawn)

14. (cancelled)

15. (currently amended): A method of claim ~~14~~1, where said virus belonging to the Paramyxoviridae family is Sendai virus.

16. A negative-sense RNA viral vector used for ~~transferring~~ the local delivery of a nucleic acid ~~into~~ to the nerve cells by the method of claim 1.